

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Highlights

- The wage rate for all hired workers in the Delta region during the April 9-15, 2006, survey week was \$8.00 per hour, up 36 cents from the corresponding week a year earlier.
- Farm-raised catfish prices in the United States averaged 78.5 cents per pound during April 2006, up 6 cents from a year earlier and 4 cents above the previous month.
- There were 92 active gins in Mississippi during 2005, down 2 gins from 2004.
- Table egg production during April 2006 increased 8 percent from the previous year, but hatching egg production declined 13 percent during this same period.
- Prices received for Mississippi soybeans during April 2006 decreased 44 cents per bushel from April 2005. Mississippi cotton prices were up 6.9 cents per pound.

Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers,
by Selected Regions and United States, April 10-16, 2005 and April 9-15, 2006 ¹

Region ²	Type of Worker						Wage Rates for All Hired Workers	
	Field		Livestock		Field & Livestock Combined			
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Dollars Per Hour								
Appalachian I	8.38	8.84	8.85	8.34	8.50	8.70	9.07	9.48
Appalachian II	8.38	8.20	7.69	7.75	8.08	8.00	8.59	8.85
Cornbelt I	8.84	10.18	9.17	9.52	8.91	10.00	9.51	10.49
Cornbelt II	8.85	8.45	9.27	10.38	9.06	9.46	9.38	10.12
Southeast	8.41	8.49	8.30	8.68	8.38	8.55	8.83	9.19
Florida	8.20	8.37	9.90	8.50	8.37	8.39	9.31	9.19
Delta	7.37	7.64	7.18	8.15	7.34	7.75	7.64	8.00
Southern Plains	8.13	8.24	9.15	9.06	8.53	8.64	9.28	9.37
United States ³	8.56	8.96	9.14	9.30	8.72	9.07	9.35	9.79

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Regions consist of the following states: Appalachian I- NC, VA; Cornbelt I- IL, IN, OH; Cornbelt II- IA, MO; Appalachian II- KY, TN, WV; Southeast- AL, GA, SC; Delta- AR, LA, MS; Southern Plains- OK, TX.

³ Excludes Alaska.

Farm Labor: Employment and Wage Rates, United States,
April 9-15, 2006, with Comparisons ¹

Farm Employment	April 10-16, 2005	January 8-14, 2006	April 9-15, 2006
		1,000	
Hired Workers	753	614 *	718
150 Days or More	600	512 *	580
149 Days or Less	153	102 *	138
Agricultural Services			
Workers Working on Farms	247	180	238
Hired Farm & Service Workers	1,000	794 *	956
		Hours Per Week	
Hours Worked, Hired Workers	39.9	38.2	40.8
		Dollars Per Hour	
Wage Rate for			
All Hired Workers ^{2 3}	9.35	10.10 *	9.79
Field & Livestock Combined	8.72	9.17 *	9.07
Field	8.56	9.11 *	8.96
Livestock	9.14	9.26 *	9.30

* Revised.

¹ Excludes Alaska.² Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.³ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers

Catfish Feed: Tons Delivered for Foodsize Fish, Mississippi and United States, 2005-2006

Month	Mississippi		Percent of Previous Year	United States		Percent of Previous Year
	2005	2006		2005	2006	
	Tons		Percent	Tons		Percent
January	2,622	1,169	45	6,265	5,103	81
February	1,895	773	41	6,334	3,970	63
March	6,604	7,980	121	17,917	20,048	112
April	19,759	24,335	123	43,583	52,240	120
May	39,046			81,591		
June	55,981			115,370		
July	55,039			113,086		
August	63,637			132,347		
September	59,346			119,788		
October	29,813			64,188		
November	7,809			20,553		
December	687			4,449		

**Catfish Processors: Sales Volume, Average Price and Ending Inventory,
United States, April 2005-2006**

Item	Sales Volume		Average Price		Ending Inventory	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 Pounds		Dollars Per Pound		1,000 Pounds	
Fresh						
Whole Fish	2,938	2,940	1.61	1.65	113	152
Fillets ¹	4,979	5,077	2.87	2.98	368	352
Other ²	1,271	987	1.71	1.75	95	99
Total Fresh	9,188	9,004	2.31	2.41	576	603
Frozen						
Whole Fish	1,141	1,210	2.01	2.14	1,110	946
Fillets ¹	10,424	9,993	2.66	2.85	8,139	4,330
Other ²	3,783	3,869	1.49	1.65	3,162	2,617
Total Frozen	15,348	15,072	2.32	2.48	12,411	7,893
Total Fresh & Frozen	24,536	24,076	2.32	2.46	12,987	8,496

¹ Includes regular, shank, and strip fillets; excludes any breaded products.

² Includes all products not already reported including weight of breading and added ingredients.

**United States Farm-Raised Catfish: Quantity Processed, Prices Paid to Producers
by Major Processors, 2005-2006 and United States Imports, 2005-2006**

Month	Round Weight Processed				Price Per Pound ¹		Imports of Catfish ²	
	Monthly		Cumulative					
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 Pounds				Dollars		1,000 Pounds	
January	53,856	49,666	53,856	49,666	.725	.726	1,383	2,644
February	51,720	49,145	105,576	98,811	.731	.729	1,230	2,491
March	57,117	56,315	162,693	155,126	.733	.745	1,161	3,267
April	50,306	43,185	212,999	198,311	.725	.785	2,198	
May	51,552		264,551		.722		2,695	
June	49,626		314,177		.721		2,538	
July	47,241		361,418		.723		2,048	
August	50,686		412,104		.724		2,684	
September	47,151		459,255		.724		2,219	
October	49,034		508,289		.724		4,062	
November	46,674		554,963		.724		4,648	
December	45,707		600,670		.726		3,239	

¹ Price for fish delivered to the processing plant door. Price includes charges for any services provided by the processing plant, such as seining and hauling, but does not include adjustments based on year-end settlements.

² Pounds of frozen boneless fillets. Includes Ictalurus, Pangasius and Siluriformes catfish. Data furnished by U.S. Bureau of Census.

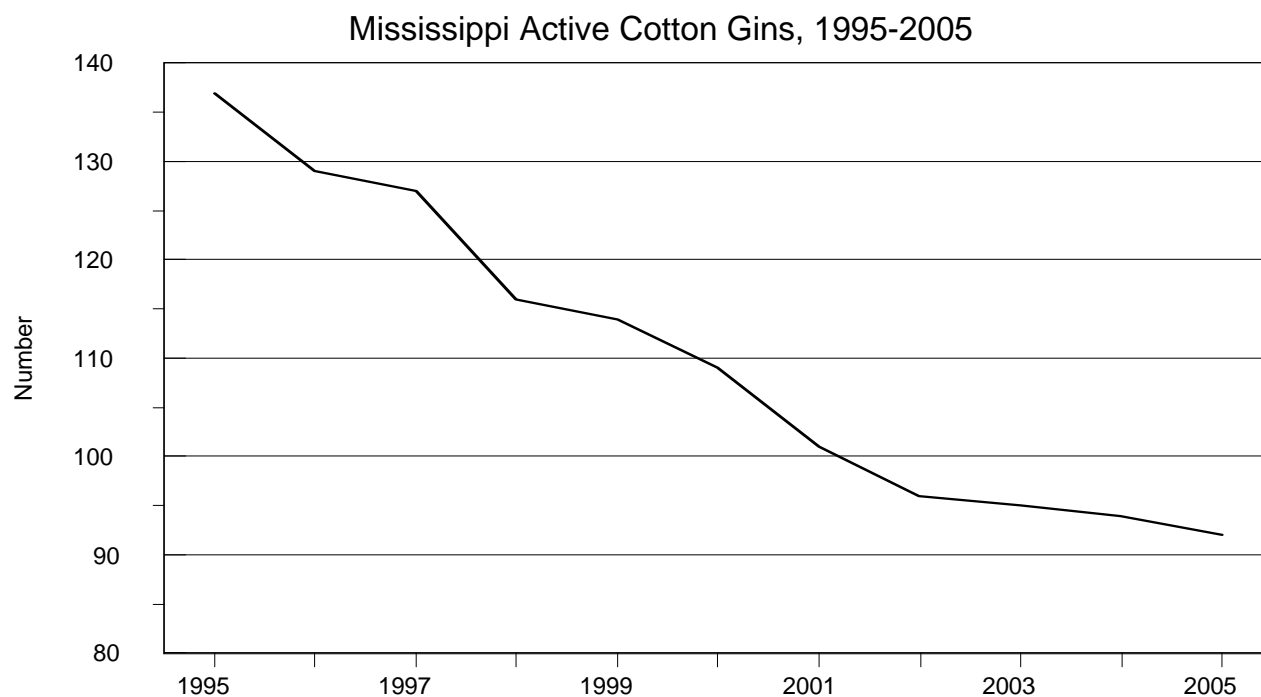
Mississippi Number of Active Gins, Average Bale Weight, and Rank by
County in US, Crop Years 2004-2005

County and State	Number of Active Gins		Average Weight Per Running Bale Ginned		Rank by Running Bales Produced	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Number		Pounds			
Adams	0	0	0.0	0.0	283	323
Alcorn	0	0	0.0	0.0	535	440
Attala	0	0	0.0	0.0	274	326
Benton	1	1	497.0	491.0	399	369
Bolivar	8	8	491.7	490.3	27	31
Calhoun	3	3	494.3	491.8	116	143
Carroll	2	2	494.6	491.9	187	164
Chickasaw	0	0	0.0	0.0	346	356
Choctaw	0	0	0.0	0.0	474	476
Claiborne	0	0	0.0	0.0	326	296
Clay	0	0	0.0	0.0	502	465
Coahoma	6	6	490.8	486.6	18	18
Copiah	0	0	0.0	0.0	480	466
Covington	0	0	0.0	0.0	475	470
Desoto	2	2	494.6	486.5	234	235
Forrest	0	0	0.0	0.0	456	378
George	0	0	0.0	0.0	367	338
Greene	0	0	0.0	0.0	481	547
Grenada	0	0	0.0	0.0	262	254
Hinds	1	1	483.2	485.0	224	251
Holmes	3	3	500.3	492.6	42	58
Humphreys	3	3	489.8	485.7	34	56
Issaquena	0	0	0.0	0.0	136	180
Itawamba	0	0	0.0	0.0	536	564
Jackson	0	0	0.0	0.0	503	533
Jefferson	1	1	503.0	500.0	358	455
Jones	0	0	0.0	0.0	575	585
Lafayette	1	1	496.0	490.0	311	337
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0.0	520	502
Leake	0	0	0.0	0.0	507	501
Lee	1	1	500.0	500.0	145	187
Leflore	9	9	496.1	498.8	26	36
Lowndes	0	0	0.0	0.0	402	315
Madison	1	1	490.0	490.0	212	268
Marshall	0	0	0.0	0.0	526	429
Monroe	2	2	497.1	496.1	260	271
Montgomery	1	1	498.0	490.0	253	246
Newton	0	0	0.0	0.0	527	552
Noxubee	0	0	0.0	0.0	259	275
Oktibbeha	0	0	0.0	0.0	580	561
Panola	3	4	497.6	498.1	90	94
Perry	0	0	0.0	0.0	434	548
Pontotoc	1	1	485.0	482.0	275	364
Prentiss	0	0	0.0	0.0	554	512

**Mississippi Number of Active Gins, Average Bale Weight, and Rank by
County in US, Crop Years 2004-2005—Cont.**

County and State	Number of Active Gins		Average Weight Per Running Bale Ginned		Rank by Running Bales Produced	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Number		Pounds			
Quitman	4	3	489.1	487.3	103	101
Rankin	1	1	493.0	486.0	316	367
Scott	0	0	0.0	0.0	492	527
Sharkey	5	5	491.6	491.6	63	74
Sunflower	7	6	490.1	487.2	38	52
Tallahatchie	4	4	494.1	491.6	46	68
Tate	0	0	0.0	0.0	230	261
Tippah	0	0	0.0	0.0	391	376
Tishomingo	0	0	0.0	0.0	453	450
Tunica	5	5	489.6	491.0	41	44
Union	0	0	0.0	0.0	542	478
Warren	1	1	487.0	485.6	232	217
Washington	9	8	487.6	490.4	25	22
Wayne	---	0	---	0.0	---	553
Webster	1	1	486.0	486.0	251	222
Yalobusha	1	1	488.0	492.0	243	239
Yazoo	7	7	494.9	494.5	29	47
Mississippi	94	92	492.7	491.2		

--- Not available.



Chicken Eggs in Incubators, by Region and United States, May 1, 2005-2006

Region	Broiler-type			Egg-type		
	2005	2006	2006/2005	2005	2006	2006/2005
	1,000		Percent	1,000		Percent
North Atlantic	12,333	12,085	98	4,704	5,148	109
East North Central	8,998	10,557	117	7,489	6,687	89
West North Central	24,945	24,674	99	8,090	9,142	113
South Atlantic	241,280	243,058	101	4,315	4,838	112
South Central	351,906	342,279	97	5,736	6,328	110
West	25,924	25,698	99	6,974	4,809	69
United States	665,386	658,351	99	37,308	36,952	99

April Layers and Egg Production, by Selected States and United States, 2005-2006

State	All Layers on Hand ¹		Table Eggs ²		Hatching Eggs ²	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000		Million Eggs		Million Eggs	
Alabama	8,999	8,917	35	34	133	129
Arkansas	14,560	14,558	88	99	189	173
Florida	10,839	11,111	244	240	8	8
Georgia	19,656	19,326	222	219	174	171
Mississippi	7,259	6,494	36	39	102	89
North Carolina	11,136	11,060	77	83	135	137
South Carolina	4,955	5,103	82	85	18	19
Virginia	3,462	3,337	28	34	36	34
United States	343,574	348,454	6,311	6,475	1,097	1,066

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

² Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

April Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched, by Selected States and United States, 2005-2006

State	During March			January-April		
	2005	2006	2006/2005	2005	2006	2006/2005
	1,000		Percent	1,000		Percent
Alabama	110,636	113,390	102	433,461	449,735	104
Arkansas	110,184	108,079	98	445,520	441,221	99
Florida	4,819	4,897	102	19,109	19,496	102
Georgia	117,954	122,591	104	476,744	485,707	102
Kentucky	25,155	25,660	102	100,985	100,168	99
Mississippi	71,086	66,936	94	284,178	266,344	94
North Carolina	67,320	65,635	97	262,766	266,401	101
Texas	55,280	53,673	97	216,648	218,363	101
United States	792,173	787,064	99	3,138,339	3,141,350	100

Feed: Prices Paid, by Selected Farm Production Region, April 2005-2006

Item	Unit	Farm Production Regions ^{1 2}							
		Appalachian		Delta States		Southeast		United States	
		2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Dollars									
Alfalfa Meal	Cwt	16.60	17.60	15.90	16.70	17.30	16.90	15.40	16.40
Alfalfa Pellets	Cwt	17.10	18.30	14.90	16.50	17.80	18.60	15.20	16.40
Bran	Cwt	15.10	16.30	14.80	15.40	18.40	19.00	15.00	16.10
Beef Cattle Concentrate 32-36 % Protein	Ton	343	373	288	306	358	321	316	336
Corn Meal	Cwt	7.95	9.54	9.69	9.78	11.50	12.60	9.57	10.10
Cottonseed Meal, 41 %	Cwt	15.90	16.40	13.90	15.30	15.80	17.10	17.20	18.20
Dairy Feed									
14 % Protein ³	Ton			159	180	296	296	220	189
16 % Protein ³	Ton	184	194	184	195	240	235	197	210
18 % Protein ³	Ton	194	209	256	259	213	204	206	221
20 % Protein ³	Ton	189	197	250	259	193	190	206	226
32-38 % Protein Conc.	Ton	328	343			239	219	331	341
Hog Feed									
14-18 % Protein ^{3 4}	Ton	260	271	264	272	299	302	273	228
38-42 % Protein Conc.	Ton	368	399	359	390	440	436	411	361
Molasses, Liquid	Cwt	13.60	14.80	12.40	15.10	13.80	19.40	14.80	17.90
Poultry Feed ³									
Broiler Grower	Ton	351	370	316	327	195	216	237	255
Chick Starter	Ton	385	388	324	333	227	227	268	273
Laying Feed	Ton	191	196	285	295	221	216	226	240
Turkey Grower	Ton	359	398	372	394	420	437	315	302
Soybean Meal, 44 %	Cwt	17.40	17.60	16.60	17.70	20.40	20.50	16.10	16.90
Stock Salt	50 Lb	5.92	5.57	3.63	3.74	5.42	5.41	4.78	4.67
Trace Mineral Blocks	50 Lb	6.02	6.02	5.12	5.31	5.69	5.98	5.52	5.68

¹ Appalachian: KY, NC, TN, VA, WV: Delta: AR, LA, MS: Southeast: AL, FL, GA, SC.² Items left blank were not surveyed.³ Complete ration feed, fed without mixing or supplementation.⁴ Excluding pig starter.

Feeder Livestock: Prices Paid, April 2006 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	2005	2006	
		April	March	April
Dollars				
Feeders and Stockers				
Cattle and Calves	Cwt	115.80	109.20	110.70
Feeder Pigs	Cwt	178.00	150.00	140.00

Mississippi and United States Price Highlights, May 2006 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	May 2005 Entire Month		April 2006 Entire Month		May 2006 Mid-Month	
		MS	US	MS	US	MS	US
Dollars							
Corn	bu	---	1.98	---	2.11	---	2.17
Cotton, Upland	lb	.395	.396	.464	.486	.463 ¹	.472 ¹
Sorghum, grain	cwt	---	3.05	---	3.70	---	3.84
Soybeans	bu	6.13	6.21	5.71	5.52	5.80	5.62
Winter Wheat	bu	---	3.23	---	3.76	---	4.10
Rice, Rough	cwt	---	6.98	---	8.19	---	7.99
All Milk	cwt	---	14.70	---	12.10	---	12.00
Fluid	cwt	---	14.70	---	12.20	---	12.00
Manufacturing	cwt	---	14.00	---	11.30	---	11.20
All Beef Cattle	cwt	---	92.10	---	84.80	---	81.80
Cows	cwt	---	58.30	---	48.50	---	48.00
Calves	cwt	---	143.00	---	135.00	---	132.00
Steers & Heifers	cwt	---	96.10	---	89.30	---	85.80
All Hogs	cwt	---	54.90	---	41.30	---	47.20
Barrows & Gilts	cwt	---	55.50	---	41.80	---	47.90
Sows	cwt	---	42.60	---	28.80	---	29.40
Broilers, Live	lb	---	.440	---	.340	---	.340
Market Eggs	doz	.220 ²	.243 ²	.290 ²	.318 ²	.240	.231

--- Estimates not made.

¹ Based on sales during the first half of the month.

² Mid-month prices.